

30 March 2022

C148686

S 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe S 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 2 March 2022 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about the sales of instant noodles products in prisons for the last 10 years. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

- > *Average units of instant noodles sold per month/per year*
- > *Low season and high season (months) of units sold*
- > *The most popular brand of instant noodles sold*
- > *The most popular flavour of instant noodles sold*
- > *Average retail price of the most popular brand sold*

Corrections has interpreted your request to relate to noodles purchased for sale to people in prison through prison canteens.

People in prison can make regular purchases of basic goods for personal use or consumption and have access to a range of items not provided by the prison, such as instant noodles. Further information about the canteen shopping system in New Zealand prisons is available at: https://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/policy_and_legislation/Prison-Operations-Manual/Prisoner-finance-activities/F.05-Prisoner-accounts-and-purchases

Four distribution centres are used to distribute instant noodles to all prisons in New Zealand. These distribution centres are based in Waikeria Prison, Rimutaka Prison, Christchurch Men's Prison and Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility.

Prior to 2019, our distribution centres were using individual technology solutions. Systems Applications and Product (SAP) was introduced to the distribution centres in Waikeria Prison and Rimutaka Prison in January 2019. SAP was introduced to Christchurch Men's Prison in November 2020. SAP integration to Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility is planned for late 2022.

Merging older data from the legacy systems is a complex process and therefore your request, as it relates to data prior to the SAP integration, is partially refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

In accordance with sections 18A and 18B of the OIA we have considered whether affixing a charge, extending the time limit or consulting with you would enable us to provide a full response to your request. We do not believe these options would enable the request to be granted in this instance.

Please find attached the available requested information, as captured through the centralised SAP system, which contains:

- Monthly product sales data from January 2019 through to December 2021, by product type (name, manufacturer, product size)
- Annual average units sold by product type
- The current retail price (sales price to people in prison) for each of the four instant noodles products.

Please note that the product data includes sales only and does not account for returns, such as damaged stock. Low season and high season product sales data is not tracked, although product sales in November and December are typically higher as prisons are permitted to make additional weekly purchases, ensuring they have a supply of canteen products through the Christmas period, during which the distribution centres are typically closed for two or three weeks.

This response may be published on Corrections' website. Typically, responses are published quarterly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with Corrections. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi



Brydie Raethel
Principal Adviser Ministerial Services
People and Capability

Department of Corrections
Instant Noodle Sales Data
January 2019 - Dec 2021

Product			Year: 2019													
Name	Manufacturer	Product Size	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Monthly Average
Noodles Beef 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	4,183	4,018	4,218	5,129	4,358	4,292	5,537	4,619	4,957	5,033	4,783	5,721	56,848	4,737
Noodles Chicken 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	5,735	5,897	6,405	7,634	6,315	6,167	8,089	6,941	8,201	8,341	8,186	9,501	87,412	7,284
Noodles Mi Goreng 5pkt	Best Wok	5 pack, 80g each	6,036	6,017	5,785	7,327	6,043	5,861	7,592	6,662	7,453	7,401	5,696	7,613	79,486	6,624
Noodles Spicy 5s	Fantastic	5 pack, 85g each	2,793	2,750	3,006	3,620	2,954	2,884	3,463	2,587	3,033	2,717	2,465	3,170	35,442	2,954
Total Product Sales			18,747	18,682	19,414	23,710	19,670	19,204	24,681	20,809	23,644	23,492	21,130	26,005	259,188	21,599

Product			Year: 2020													
Name	Manufacturer	Product Size	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Monthly Average
Noodles Beef 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	5,637	4,875	6,310	5,012	4,103	4,725	3,331	3,900	3,609	3,156	5,063	5,225	54,946	4,579
Noodles Chicken 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	8,992	8,195	11,279	10,364	8,994	10,618	7,902	9,307	8,332	7,411	10,530	10,606	112,530	9,378
Noodles Mi Goreng 5pkt	Best Wok	5 pack, 80g each	6,655	5,948	8,181	7,182	6,652	7,522	5,843	6,696	6,450	5,379	8,158	8,385	83,051	6,921
Noodles Spicy 5s	Fantastic	5 pack, 85g each	2,614	2,122	3,163	3,230	2,994	3,540	2,563	3,049	2,725	2,411	3,434	3,808	35,653	2,971
Total Product Sales			23,898	21,140	28,933	25,788	22,743	26,405	19,639	22,952	21,116	18,357	27,185	28,024	286,180	23,849

Product			Year: 2021													
Name	Manufacturer	Product Size	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Monthly Average
Noodles Beef 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	3,885	4,006	4,965	3,773	4,822	4,228	4,254	5,502	4,407	4,159	5,252	4,772	54,025	4,502
Noodles Chicken 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	8,070	7,991	9,901	8,112	8,988	8,501	8,603	11,952	8,960	8,602	10,754	9,711	110,145	9,179
Noodles Mi Goreng 5pkt	Best Wok	5 pack, 80g each	6,251	6,320	7,778	6,310	7,667	7,150	6,563	7,803	5,494	6,581	8,164	8,199	84,280	7,023
Noodles Spicy 5s	Fantastic	5 pack, 85g each	2,505	2,609	3,465	2,794	3,266	2,985	2,878	3,864	3,566	3,091	3,842	3,769	38,634	3,220
Total Product Sales			20,711	20,926	26,109	20,989	24,743	22,864	22,298	29,121	22,427	22,433	28,012	26,451	287,084	23,924

Product			Sales Price (Feb 2022)
Name	Manufacturer	Product Size	
Noodles Beef 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	\$ 2.50
Noodles Chicken 5s	Best Wok	5 pack, 85g each	\$ 2.50
Noodles Mi Goreng 5pkt	Best Wok	5 pack, 80g each	\$ 3.50
Noodles Spicy 5s	Fantastic	5 pack, 85g each	\$ 3.90